

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. The local Sinclair affiliate in my area is WTTA (WB 38) www.wtta38.com 7622 Bald Cypress Place, Tampa, FL 33614 813-886-9882

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. The bullying tactics wherebe Sinclair has commaned its local affiliates to air the anti-Kerry "documantary" demonstrates blatant disregard for fairness. Instead it deomstrates a willingnesst o pander to ensconced politicians in an effort to enlarge corporate profit.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Sinclair's actions in this case would make the state-controlled media of a place like N. Korea or Cuba, or Stalin's USSR proud.
Thank you.